period the information is available, was Rs. 9530 crores. The information is maintained only for investment made by Central public sector undertakings.

(b) to (d) The projects under implementation in Assam and other States along with anticipated cost of Rs. 100 crores and above are given in Chapter 2 (Section II) of Volume I of the Public Enterprises Survey 1997-98 which has been laid in Parliament on 26.2.99 and is a published document.

Framing of New Broadcasting Legislation

361. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a new broadcasting legislation is being worked out;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof and whether it is likely to be introduced in the budget session of Parliament; and

(c) whether the proposed legislation is likely to make provisions relating to foreign equity components, the issue of changes in cable law and approval to direct-to-home broadcasting?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITELY): (a) to (c) The Government proposes to bring before the Parliament a comprehensive legislation which will, *inter-alia*, provide for regulatory mechanism for various aspects of broadcasting. However, the exact details are yet to be finalized and no time frame can be indicated for the same as yet.

Theme of Serials Telecast on Doordarshan

†362. SHRI JANESHWAR MISRA: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the theme of more than 90 per cent of the serials telecast on Doordarshan at present is related to the rich/urban aristocratic class;

(b) whether it is also a fact that serials based on the works of famous literatures are rare these days on Doordarshan; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Sponsors have clearly told the serial writers that the upper class Indians in the serials should speak the mixture of English and Hindi languages?

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) and (b) It has been intimated by Prasar Bharati that serials with themes of interest of all cross sections of society are approved/telecast by Doordarshan. It has further been intimated that a number of serials based on the works of renowned writers like Munshi Prem Chand, Yash Pal, Sarat Chandra etc. are telecast on Doordarshan. In addition, interviews with prominent persons in the field of literature are also telecast from time to time.

Anti-India Propaganda by Pak TV

363. SARDAR GURCHARAN SINGH TOHRA:
SHRI SUKHDEV SINGH LIBRA:

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state the steps Government have taken to counter anti-India propaganda by Pak TV, especially in border areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DISINVESTMENT (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): It has been the constant endeavour of the Government to strengthen the transmission network of Doordarshan all along the border to enhance the coverage within as well as across the border. This is being achieved by enhancing the power of existing transmitters, setting up of new transmitters and through appropriate programme development. At present, 11 projects for improvement of Doordarshan services, in Indo-Pak border areas are under implementation. In addition, a scheme for massive expansion of Doordarshan coverage in border States of J&K and Punjab involving an outlay of Rs. 218 crores has also been approved.

The duration of programmes telecast from DDK, Srinagar on 'Kashmir channel' in Kashmiri and other dialects of J&K has been enhanced from 2 hours to 15 hours a day from January 26, 2000.